


Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

541676
PCT/EP2004/000169


Applicant's or agent's file reference 29256P WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/000169	International filing date (day/month/year) 13 January 2004 (13.01.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 13 January 2003 (13.01.2003)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B44C 1/14, G09F 3/02, B60R 13/04, 13/02, 13/00		
Applicant KUNSTSTOFF-TECHNIK SCHERER & TRIER GMBH & CO KG		

- This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 3 sheets, as follows:
 - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
- This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report
 - ☐ Box No. II Priority
 - ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
 - ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
 - ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
 - ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 22 June 2004 (22.06.2004)	Date of completion of this report 27 May 2005 (27.05.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/000169

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☐ The international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages _____ 1-12 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* 1-16 received by this Authority on 28 April 2005 (28.04.2005)
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages _____ 1/1 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. _____ 17, 18 _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/000169

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-16

YES

Claims

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims 1-16

YES

Claims

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims 1-16

YES

Claims

NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. Claims 1 and 11:

1.1 Prior art:

Document D1 (DE-A-3 147 043), which is considered to be the closest prior art, discloses a multi-layer strip with all the features set out in the preamble of independent product claim 1, as well as the corresponding method features relating to the production of such a strip, as per independent claim 11.

1.2 Problem:

To develop a decor strip of the known kind, wherein an attractively designed, embossed surface structure can be additionally formed whilst the amount of metal used is reduced.

1.3 Solution:

The specific combination of all the features of the complementary independent claims, claims 1

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and 11, in particular the formation of the reinforcing layer of a plastics material which, according to the characterising part of claim 1 and hence also according to the characterising part of claim 11, is extruded onto the previously embossed top layer, is not described in the prior art nor is it obvious therefrom and, in consequence, involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

2. Dependent claims 2 to 10 and 12 to 16:

Dependent claims 2 to 10 and 12 to 16 define advantageous embodiments of a multi-layer strip, having in each case all the features of independent claim 1, and advantageous embodiments of a method for the production of such a strip, having in each case all the features of independent claim 11.

3. Description:

The description is not consistent with the claims (PCT Rule 5.1(a)(iii)).